Introduction
• Conducted clinical research with NYP for two years on how to enhance hospital and home based care for patients with inflammatory bowel disease (IBD).
• Became interested in evaluating broader social and psychological effects of IBD.

Reflection
• My main responsibility in June was writing and editing the IRB application to undergo seven rounds of review. While frustrating at times, the process familiarized me with hospital bureaucracy and research ethics – topics I will continue to explore in my thesis.

Objective of Internship
• Design anthropology study “Patient and Physician Experience of IBD.”
• Conduct fieldwork: 1) participant observation of hospital dynamics and procedures, 2) interviews with hospital staff and patients.

Looking ahead
• I plan on examining the history of IBD in my thesis to trace evolving understandings of chronic GI disease. I conducted primary research at the Academy of Medicine near Mount Sinai Hospital, studying medical textbooks dating back to the 1700s!

Work profile
• Wrote and edited Weill Cornell IRB application.
• Shadowed doctors and residents at the pediatric gastroenterology department.
• Attended bi-weekly Grand Rounds on cutting-edge GI research.
• Authored six clinical research studies illustrating broader life impact of chronic GI disease.
• Researched history of IBD at New York City Physicians Library.

Questions
• How can capturing patient perspectives of IBD and other chronic disease enhance clinical care and change health system structures?

Conclusion
• Fieldwork at NYP was a fantastic opportunity to craft my first anthropology study, meet doctors and patients, learn about health system dynamics, and explore NYC.

Acknowledgements
• Thank you to my physician mentor and research team, Dr. Elaine Barfield and Jennifer Lentine. Thank you to CHW for making this summer possible.